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Letter dated 13 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 7 March 2003 from President Thabo Mbeki to the Secretary-General and later circulated to the Members of the Security Council.

South Africa has been closely following the consultations in the Security Council and specifically the proposals to set benchmarks against which Iraq's cooperation could be measured in a transparent and objective manner. The Security Council may wish to consider that the current deliberations would be enhanced if the Security Council received a draft work programme containing the "key remaining disarmament tasks" from the weapons inspectors.

As you will recall, during his statement to the Security Council on 7 March 2003, the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) stated:

> "Resolution 1284 (1999) instructs UNMOVIC to 'address unresolved disarmament issues' and to identify 'key remaining disarmament tasks' and the latter are to be submitted for approval by the Council in the context of a work programme. UNMOVIC will be ready to submit a draft work programme this month as required".

South Africa believes that the work programme of the inspectors is central to the negotiations under way in the Security Council. I therefore respectfully request the Security Council to consider requesting UNMOVIC to present its draft work programme as soon as possible.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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